Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Aviation plays a critical role in the lives of South Dakota citizens, businesses, farms, and ranches, and is being enhanced by efforts of the South Dakota Department of Transportation Office of Aeronautics, and the South Dakota Aeronautics Commission; and,

Whereas, South Dakota is celebrating 100 years of aviation in 2011, and has a rich aviation history, including such names as Clyde Ice, Joe Foss, Duane Corning, Nellie Willhite, Ed Yost, Charles Gemar, and Stratobowl Space Flights; such history being preserved by the South Dakota Aviation Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, South Dakota has a significant interest in the continued vitality of aviation, the airline industry, educational institutions, aviation organizations, associated companies, and Ellsworth Air Force Base; and,

Whereas, South Dakota has 72 airports serving 2,262 pilots, 2,353 aviation aircraft, 8 master mechanics, 20 master pilots, 10 Civil Air Patrol squadrons, 4 Experimental Aircraft Association chapters, and 16 volunteers in the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association Airport Support Network; and,

Whereas, Total direct and indirect jobs attributed to the local aerospace and aviation sector include approximately 15,389 jobs, which provide a wage and benefit impact of $596 million in payroll annually, and aviation in South Dakota contributes $1.937 billion, or $2,565 per capita, annually to South Dakota's economy; and,

Whereas, South Dakota is home to 10 airports offering charter flight service, 21 airports offering aircraft maintenance, 19 airports offering flight instruction, 377 certified flight instructors, and 57 fixed-base operators in the state; and,

Whereas, Given South Dakota's geography, a great many businesses and communities depend upon general aviation aircraft of all types for mobility, access to medical treatment, economic opportunity, disaster relief, and a wide range of critical resources, and general aviation helps meet the medical needs on the state's Indian reservations, aerial forest fire fighting in the Black Hills, and economic development in small communities; and,

Whereas, Organizations like the South Dakota Pilots Association, South Dakota Aviation Association, South Dakota Airport Managers Association, Alliance for Aviation Across America, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, National Business Aviation Association, National Association of State Aviation Officials, and National Air Transportation Association recognize and promote the interests and importance of aviation in South Dakota and throughout the world; and,

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 2011, as

GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH

in South Dakota, and I encourage citizens to recognize the vital strategic resource aviation provides to our great state.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fifth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eleven.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Judy A. Larson Exec. Asst.

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State